

The JFK Assassination, Episode 23

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FFF president Jacob Hornberger details the evidence pointing toward the U.S. national-security state's assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Watch the entire series <https://www.fff.org/freedom-in-motion/videos/series/the-national-security-states-assasination-of-jfk/>. Go to the podcast <https://directory.libsyn.com/shows/view/id/jfkassassination>.

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you [Music] I'm Jacob Hornberger president of the future of Freedom Foundation and this is episode 23 of my series on the JFK assassination soon after President Kennedy took office the CIA presented him with a plan for invading Cuba for the purpose of regime change operation now one of the interesting aspects of this plan was that there is nowhere in the Constitution which purportedly controls the action of the federal government where the federal government is authorized to invade another country for the purpose of regime change but keep in mind that once the federal government was converted to a national security state after World War two the Supreme Court and then the federal judiciary just somewhat went silent or even supportive when it came to matters of national security the idea was that under a national security state the nasty branch of the government would have to do whatever was necessary to protect quote national security and if that included assassination or invasions or coos or things that weren't authorized to be done in the Constitution that was simply considered irrelevant that now for all practical purposes the concept of national security trumped the Constitution even though that the federal government had been converted into a national security state without even the semblance of a constitutional amendment but in any event they present Kennedy this plan and Kennedy you know as I indicated earlier he had come into office is pretty much a standard cold warrior he's he's buying into this notion that Cuba under communist rule under Fidel Castro which had happened in 1959 a couple years before was just a dagger pointed in America's neck and that that this was part of the worldwide communist conspiracy that was based in Moscow that

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conspiracy that was based in Moscow that was coming to get us they were gonna conquer the world and so Kennedy looks at the plan and he asks a few questions what are the chances of success and the CIA said Oh excellent that the Cuban people are they're gonna they're gonna rally to it to the invaders as they come into the into the island because they really hate Castro and it was one of these things where the CIA just wasn't facing reality at all the fact is that most Cubans love Fidel Castro first of all they they loved his his socialist policies the idea that government should take care of people like things with old age assistance and free health care and free public schooling in other words the things that Americans like you know government taking care of people with Social Security and Medicare and Medicaid and public schooling and so forth and you know they also like the idea of equalization of wealth another thing that a lot of Americans love too you know you see in the mainstream press you Lamentations against the great inequalities of wealth well the Cubans felt the same way and so they liked the idea that Castro was equalizing well by nationalizing businesses seizing lands and businesses and money belonging to the rich and then redistributing it to the poor so and they also like the fact that Castro was willing to stand up to the United States remember the United States had had an obsession with controlling Cuba that stretched all the way back to the spanish-american war in 1898 and so here was for the first time the island was no longer being controlled by by the US government and that infuriated the CIA infuriated the Pentagon that not only was

Castro being independent he was also reaching out to the Soviet Union in a spirit of peace and friendship the same thing that árbenz had done in guatemala back in 1954 you know seven years before and that's what precipitated the regime change operation in in guatemala so they're leading can

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in in guatemala so they're leading can you believe that this is going to be a big success but here's the big thing Kennedy says will this need air support or military support from the US government and they said no in fact the plan called for the invasion to be conducted by Cuban exiles that is Cubans who had left the island because of the Castro communist revolution and we're now determined to go back in and reinstall fluency of Batista the right wing dictator that had preceded Castro or bring in another right wing dictator and then bring back in the Mafia and and essentially restore things to where they were before Astro took over so but the idea here was that this invasion was going to be conducted only by the Cuban exiles and not overtly by the CIA the CIA's role was going to be kept secret so essentially the plan entailed Kennedy going on national television and announcing this invasion and then essentially lying to the American people and to the world about the u.s. involvement in this thing which would have been an interesting situation because in the course of sitting - CIA would have had this over over his head and could have easily subjected him to blackmail you know as I say the 64 campaign starts gerenuk the CIA could have easily you know conveyed a message that if they didn't get what they wanted they would leak to their assets in the press which they had many of them because remember that they were installing assets under operation Mockingbird in the mainstream press they could've easily communicated the message that - they're one of their assets that Kennedy had lied about no US involvement in the and the invasion so they they tell Kennedy no no air supports needed but here's the thing they were lying about it that the the whole idea was to get the u.s. involved in this because the CIA agents that were presenting are officials who were presenting this plan to Kennedy knew that it could not succeed I forget the number but it's like a thousand exiles that we're

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like a thousand exiles that we're invading they never stood a chance against Castro's army and there was never a chance that there was gonna be an uprising him among the Cuban people to support him so they were set in Kennedy up and and this is what they figured well he's a neophyte president you know kind of a playboy he's coming in newbie and and they they'd pretty much the CIA pretty much had free reign during the Eisenhower administration Eisenhower of course was aging and and he's sort of you know let the CIA do pretty much what he wanted it was running its own show was in control of its own operations and very little oversight and so they figured out okay well here this neophyte president we're gonna set him up because once the invasion starts and it starts to lose Kennedy can't afford to lose face is a brand new president and getting beat by the Communists there's no way he's gonna have to send in the air support and then followed by the military because the air support wouldn't have been net sufficient to win this this regime change so that meant troops would have had to follow the the the bombing and they attack the air attacks and so it was all set up so that the invasion starts and sure enough the cap shows forces were ready for him but their intelligence was better than the CIA's and they start massacring this this invading exiled Cuban army and so the CIA goes to Kennedy and says eight things are not working out we need air support and Kennedy says well no I told you you were not going to get the air support well I know we know mr. president but we really need it now in the communists are about to beat us and Kennedy just stuck by his guns which shocked him because they sure they were sure they were going to maneuver in position and posture this neophyte president and to providing the air support Kennedy says no so he lets them go down to defeat and so there's some of them they were killed the rest of them are captured there they're putting into a communist prison 90 miles from

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a communist prison 90 miles from American shores there's nothing the US can do about it as a practical matter unless they want to invade of course which Kennedy was not gonna do and so the aftermath of this was the CIA was livid over this I mean here the Communists had beat the CIA the Communists had beat the United States in a military battle you still got this dagger pointed in America's neck my away and and the mindset was America could not survive this I mean the United States could not survive a communist outpost this close this was a a grave threat to national security this was part of the worldwide communist conspiracy to take over the world and it was 90 miles away from the United States so they would live and they considered Tower Kennedy a coward a traitor a person that betrayed American values have betrayed the CIA that betrayed everything and and had shown cowardice in the eyes of the Communist enemy that's what really concerned him now Kennedy for his part was just as livid furious because he knew he had been lied to and he had been set up and now he goes on public he goes on television and publicly accepts responsibility for the debacle but man he was furious it's reputed that he said I'm gonna tear the CIA and do a thousand pieces and I'm gonna scatter him to the winds and so he starts removing powers from the CIA he puts his brother Bobby who the CIA despised is part of a supervisor over the CIA and then biggest of all he fires the the head of the CIA Allen Dulles not this guy was revered he was respected he was admired he was like a god in the CIA and you know here's an organization an agency that was pretty much accustomed to running its own business and all of a sudden here's his neophyte president and says you're out to to to show him who's the boss here after this the the fact that they had planned to set him up and

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that they had planned to set him up and they they lied to him and then he fired the two of the chief deputies of Dulles so you've already got the makings of anger and rage here taking place at the very beginning of the Kennedy administration now things go on and then the military gets in the act now keep in mind that the military which was part of the this new national security establishment that had come into existence after World War two giant military establishment permanent military establishment ever-growing military establishment they are convinced that this is a war of the finish that there cannot be peaceful coexistence between the Communist world and the Western world it's just impossible that there's going to be a winner and there's going to be a loser and they were convinced that this was ultimately this cold war which no where no shooting was going to take place was ultimately going to end up in a nuclear war and they were and they were provoking it I mean they knew they had nuclear superiority vast nuclear superiority over the over the Soviets and even though they had lied about that too they kept saying there was a missile gap that the Soviets were far ahead and they knew it was a lie but it was a racket to get more money into the into the military and it worked because people believed the military they thought was a military lied to us but the fact is that our we had vastly superior ability when it came to nuclear weapons and so that what what they did was first of all they tried to provoke a crisis the military did in Berlin which of course was a divided cities Berlin and West Berlin and in the Communist hell East Berlin and the United States and the Western powers held West Berlin and and there was the Berlin Wall there and I think the wall was a built yet and so there was there was a big tank confrontation there that really was precipitated by the US military and Kennedy called that situation down with the Soviets and the tanks backed out but and the military

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tanks backed out but and the military was furious that because Kennedy essentially had backed down he made the United States look weak and at some point in this process that the military presents Kennedy with a plan for a first strike nuclear attack on the United States a surprise attack it very well may have been modeled on the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor which was done in a surprise attack without a declaration of war having been issued first and this was essentially what the military the Joint Chiefs of Staff were presenting to Kennedy a plan that would be a surprise massive all-out nuclear attack on the end of the Soviet Union and the idea was that whichever side struck first a nuclear war clearly had the advantage because they would wipe out most of the nuclear capability of the of the other nation and only a few nuclear weapon nuclear missiles would get through coming back so the idea was hey like we strike them and and they won't be able to retaliate too much and so Kennedy asked about the too much and he said well how many

American casualties do you foresee from this and they said only 40 million or so and but you see they wipe out all the Russians and they wipe out and the Russians only wiped out 40 million and that leaves I don't know 150 million or so Americans so we win we win the nuclear war because they're all gone and we still got you know 100 150 yourself well Kennedy leaves this meeting and indignantly says to an aide and we call ourselves the human race couldn't believe that these people were had actually come up with this plan and so he started to see that his wavelengths different not just on the CIA level but also in the military level well the military then presents Kennedy with a plan called Operation Northwoods now Northwoods remained secret for thirty years or more it didn't come out

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thirty years or more it didn't come out until the assassination records Review Board in the 1990s remember that's the board that Oliver Stone's movie JFK which posited that the Kennedy assassination was a national security state regime change operation and that mandated that the military and the CIA and other federal agencies release records relating to the Kennedy administration and one of these they release that they had been keeping secret was Operation Northwoods now this was a plan by the Joint Chiefs of Staff unanimous presented to Kennedy that was essentially a false flag operation it called for CIA operatives posing as communists okay and specifically Cuban communists that would be hijacking airplanes u.s. airplanes commercial airliners and also committing terrorist attacks here in the United States terrace attacks that would actually kill people real people but the idea was that okay but we're at war and and sometimes people have to be sacrificed in war but you see at that point once the under the plan once the hijackings in the terrorism take place Kennedy's job would be to go on national television and say my fellow Americans we have been attacked you know same way like Roosevelt with with progress we've been attacked and and we have no choice now these are clearly Cuban communist terrorists and hijackers we have the right to defend ourselves and I'm hereby ordering and bombing and an invasion of Cuba and so they go in there and they get rid of Castro and they reinstall Batista or some other right-wing dictator they bring the Mafia and everything's you know in their eyes hunky-dory well Kennedys says I'm not going down this road at all and so he mixes Operation Northwoods which angers the military again because here a Kennedy is showing softness in the eyes of the Communist enemy he's not doing anything you know at least nothing

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anything you know at least nothing substantive concrete to get rid of Castro here and here's his chance with Operation Northwoods it and their eyes it was a perfect plan well in October 1962 the CIA discovers that there are nuclear missiles from the Soviet Union installed in Cuba now you know remember this is this is an agency whose job originally was to be you know intelligence gathering but somebody had slipped this nebulous language in there that gave the the CIA carte blanche to essentially do whatever it won it's assassination and regime change and they were obviously spending so much time on the other stuff that they and not very much time on the intelligence gathering because they didn't even know that the Soviet Union's were some of you was bringing over these missiles you know they had to bring over across the ocean but by the time the CIA discovers them they're already in place and so the you know they said well you know this these are offensive weapons and that's that's what they mainstream historians and the mainstream newspapers always say that the Soviet Union was installing offensive weapons well the of course the suggestion is is that this is part of the worldwide communist conspiracy that now they're coming over bringing nuclear weapons to attack the United States from Cuba you know start a nuclear war you know as part of the plan to take over the United States well it's nothing of the sort these were always defensive weapons no no what's going on here well Castro knew that the CIA and the Pentagon wanted to invade Cuba his intelligence like I say was better than the CIA's but he also knew that if the U.S. invaded there was no way that he was going to win there's no possibility that a third world country is going to beat the United States in a major war so Castro that if the Pentagon got its way and also massive amounts of troops are invading Cuba he's gonna lose you know sort of like when the people in Grenada

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sort of like when the people in Grenada lost and when the u.s. invaded that country or or Panama in the US or Iraq that Castro knew he didn't have a chance so he said I that he had one chance to stop this and that is to invite the Soviet Union but to put nuclear weapons there for two reasons the same reason is essentially why North Korea has nuclear weapons one to deter a US attack on Cuba and two that if the u.s. if that doesn't work in the u.s. decides to attack Castro's saying I'm gonna use nuclear weapons I know I'm going down but there's gonna be a lot of people that I'm gonna take down with me with my nuclear weapons so the the Pentagon is saying to Kennedy oh this the first of all they're furious because in their eyes if Kennedy had done Operation Northwoods none of this would be going on that the the the invasion would have taken place because of these hijackings from these supposed communists hijackers and terrorists and terrorist attacks on American soil the regime change operation would have been over the u.s. dictator had been reinstalled so they're furious about that but now they're telling Kennedy okay now you have no choice now here you don't need a pretext you've got your justification for invading right now for bombing right now and they were putting tremendous pressure on Kennedy during this crisis to start bombing and invading and Kennedy is is is you know going along with the pressure he's move mobilizing troops over to Florida but Bobby Kennedy tells the the the Soviet diplomat that he was he was negotiating with trying to resolve the crisis that he says but he said my brother's under a lot of pressure from the military here well we're looking at the possibility of a coup because by this time the military had lost total faith and Kennedy to to deal with the Communists and and so they were they were pressuring him and and according to Bobby Kennedy there was the possibility of a coup here so Kennedy

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possibility of a coup here so Kennedy says no now what the CIA also didn't know despite the fact that it's supposed to be the intelligence-gathering part of the federal government is that the Soviet commanders on the ground in Cuba had fully armed nuclear missiles that the CIA didn't know that and and they didn't also know that the the commanders had been given battlefield authority by the leader of the Soviet Union Nikita Khrushchev so in other words they had the authority to pull the trigger and fire those missiles without checking with Khrushchev so it is it is a foregone conclusion that if US troops had invaded or the bombing attack had started at least one of those Soviet commanders would have said to heck with it and fire those missiles to defend his troops in which case one nuclear weapon and that would have been it Kennedy would clearly have fire in America's nuclear arsenal and the Soviet Union would have responded and most of us wouldn't be here today so Kennedy was trying to figure out a way how to resolve this crisis without invading Cuba and he he's talking to Christian they're trying to work out a deal he's talking to him indirectly communicating with with letters and so forth and they NE and Kimmy had this unique ability to put his himself in the in the shoes of his opponent this is what the military commanders could never do or the CIA could do they always saw things in black and white you know you got to invade the missiles are there you have no choice but Kennedy said okay why is Khrushchev doing this the ones Castro doing this and he figured well you know maybe they're they're trying not to attack the United States not that maybe they're not offensive weapons but maybe it's because they want to deter an attack so he proposes to decrease Jeff he says you know what do you want they work out it deal work Chris just says look if you give me your guarantee that it's the CIA and the Pentagon won't loan attack won't invade I'll take my missiles home Kennedy says you got a deal and if the

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Kennedy says you got a deal and if the last minute Khrushchev says hey how about removing your missiles out of Turkey because they're pretty close they're pointed is not much further from where Cuba is how about you taking out of yours and and Kennedy calls the military in and says she can you guys still have your missiles because they were supposed to be removed and they said yeah and Kennedy was furious but he strikes a secret on that part of it with cat with Chris Jeff and political reasons it says look let's not make this part of the formal deal but you got my word that I'll take him out in six months and he complied with that but here was the deal that that curse Jeff removes the missiles and Castro gives the game I mean Kennedy gives the guarantee that he will not invade Cuba to remove Castro now the mainstream press and the

reporters and the historians have always said that Khrushchev blinked he was the one that blinked that's not true it's Kennedy who blinked because Kennedy ended up giving them what they wanted which was no invasion of Cuba that's why they put the nuclear weapons in so when they remove a nuclear weapons they're doing it because they've gotten what they wanted but it's a good thing the Kennedy blinked because if he hadn't blinked there would have been nuclear war there's no question about it now the military though was absolutely furious I mean even more furious than the CIA was after the babes general LeMay it was on the Joint Chiefs of Staff he called it the biggest military defeat or biggest defeat in US history they were livid because here's the thing Kennedy now had guaranteed that the dagger 90 miles away from American shores the Communist dagger was there permanently that that they they couldn't remove it anymore and and the Cuban exiles when they heard about this they were shocked like their whole lives for the past you know two three years had been devoted to training camps and operations everything everything to get rid of Castro and all of a sudden you've got a president says there's not gonna

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got a president says there's not gonna be an invasion and they even the Kennedy even started ordering the tearing down of many of the training camps well the CIA was absolutely furious I mean here's this neophyte president coward a traitor that's the way they viewed him that he he was jeopardizing national security that that that now national security was really at stake because now the Communists had a permanent foothold in the Western Hemisphere and one that Kennedy had said we won't invade to to oust you so here you have the makings of a giant war that is taking place between the president the United States who's head of the executive branch and the Pentagon and the CIA that are the national security branch of the government and and they clearly have different perspectives on how to resolve things here now interestingly enough in the aftermath of this Cuban Missile Crisis Kennedy achieves a breakthrough that is one of the biggest breakthroughs a person could ever achieve in his life and very likely the biggest breakthrough a u.s. president has ever achieved and it was a breakthrough of insight and when Kennedy achieved that that insight breakthrough he began moving down a road that would you [Music]

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